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The first two sections of the present memoir are occupied with a critical examination of the theory advanced by De Saussure to account for the progressive motion of glaciers, which he considered as formed of masses of rigid and inflexible ice, and with the further explanations of that theory given by Ramaud, Bischoff, Agassiz, and Studer. The author, on the other hand, regarding these masses as possessing a considerable degree of plasticity, explains on that supposition the phenomena they present; and, in the third section of the paper, he relates a series of experiments which he carried on in the Mer de Glace, near Chamouni, in the summer of 1844, with a view to determine by direct measurement the relative motion of different parts of the glacier. This he accomplished by selecting a spot on the western side of the Mer de Glace, between Trelaporte and l'Angle, where the ice was compact and free from fissures, and erecting on the surface a row of posts at short distances from one another, in a line transverse to the general direction of the moving mass. He was thus enabled to discover by trigonometrical observations the movements of different points in this line; and he ascertained that they advanced more and more rapidly in proportion as they were distant from the sides of the glacier; and that when not under the influence of neighbouring *crevasses*, these motions were gradual and uninterrupted; as was shown by the lines carried through the posts forming, after the lapse of a few days, a continuous curve, of which the convexity was turned towards the lower end of the glacier.

"An Account of the Southern Magnetic Surveying Expedition." By Lieut. H. Clerk, R.A., in a letter to Lieut.-Colonel Sabine, R.A., F.R.S. Communicated by Lieut.-Colonel Sabine.

The letter, which is dated from the Magnetical Observatory at the Cape of Good Hope, June 28, 1845, reports the return to the Cape of the Pagoda from her voyage to the high southern latitudes after the successful completion of the magnetical service on which she had been employed by direction of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, at the request of the President and Council of the Royal Society.

January 22, 1846.

SIR WILLIAM BURNETT, V.P. in the Chair.

Golding Bird, M.D., the Rev. James Booth, D.D., Richard Du-gard Grainger, Esq., and Theophilus Thompson, M.D., were elected Fellows of the Society.

"On the Supra-renal, Thymus and Thyroid Bodies." By John Goodsir, Esq. Communicated by Richard Owen, Esq., F.R.S. &c.

In this paper, the author enters on the developement of the theory he advanced two years ago with regard to the origin and nature of